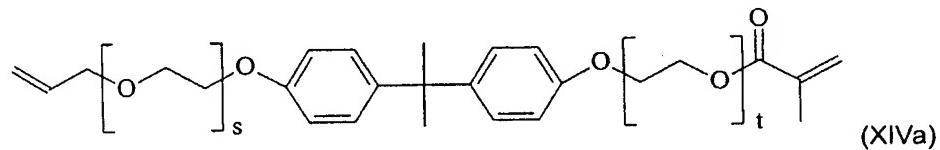


**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Asymmetric crosslinking agents which are very particularly preferred according to the invention encompass compounds of the formula (XIV), in particular



where  $s$  and  $t$  are greater than or equal to zero and the sum  $s + t$  is preferably in the range from 1 to 20, in particular in the range from 2 to 10,  
and compounds of the formula (XIII), in particular



where ~~s and t are~~ is greater than or equal to zero and the sum  $s + t$  is preferably in the range from 1 to 20, in particular in the range from 2 to 10.